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THE ROLE OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES OF THE SOVIET UNION IN READING PROMOTION

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The role of National Libraries of the Soviet Union[1] in reading promotion

Reading promotion is, in our opinion, a process of purposeful influence on raising quantitative and qualitative values of book reading with regard to the tasks of national, economic, and cultural development. The contemporary character of the problem is resultant of the fact that books, magazines, and newspapers reading remains at present and will remain in future, in the opinion of many experts, to be the main source of professional and general cultural development inspite of growing introduction of non-conventional information media into the system of scientific communication. Statistical indicators of books, magazines, and newspapers production in the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries are stably maintained at a high level. The content of the publisher's output tends to be in keeping with demands of rapid social progress, interests and enquires of different community groups, whose educational and cultural growth makes their requests more elaborate. All these factors increase potentially the advantages of libraries in assisting the solution of major social and economic problems.

A National Library obviously can play a big role in involving broad groups of population in reading and, especially, in the use of library as the center of information resources and book's cultural values. The NATIS programme (objective 3) elaborates the prob-

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[1] We mean by National Libraries the Lenin State Library (LSL) - the main library of the USSR and State Libraries (SL) of all Union Republics.

lem of the development of reading habits and involvement in book use.

The main attention is drawn in this document to the elimination of illiteracy to the interest of readers of native literature, to a planned establishment of the library network, etc.

In the USSR these objectives were reached at large by the early 1940s with the assistance of all libraries, especially the National Libraries.

Under the modern circumstances the problem is put differently: how to raise the social role of reading and libraries in the conditions of scientific and technical revolution and its social consequences? What can be the National Libraries' contribution to it? In the Soviet multinational State the problem is being solved in keeping with the general tasks of the Soviet people as a new historic community and with specific national and historic traditions of all nations and nationalities of the USSR. In this connection three functions of the NL activities seem to be the most important: 1) sociological substantiation of the librarianship development promoted by systematic studies of reading and reader's interests as a part of its wide-ranging scientific and research work; 2) methodological assistance to mass libraries in their work with readers, involvement of the people in the library use; 3) development of recommendatory bibliography as guidance means for a librarian and a reader in the choice of better books.

The effectiveness of the NL influence (in particular, the LSL) on the national librarianship in regard to the mentioned functions derives largely from The Status on Librarianship in the USSR[1)]

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1) Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet of March 13, 1984.

(The Library Law) which assigns the NL the central functions and close operational contact firstly with the State Libraries of Union Republics.

At present the State Libraries of the USSR, most of which were founded under the Soviet Government, by the scope and content of their activities belong to the biggest libraries of the world. According to the data of 1983 the collection of each State Library numbered from 3 to 6 million volumes. Indicators showing the number of readers, library attendance, book loaning are the evidence to their active use.

The NL activities are effected not only by quantitative changes, but also by serious qualitative ones. In the 1970s and 1980s their role as the central element of the Republican library system has grown considerably. This was realized firstly, by the active development of coordinational and methodological functions of the National Libraries covering all aspects of their activities, by the increased influence of SL on librarianship planning in the Republic. The scope of activities of libraries and scientific and technical information agencies was more definitely differentiated, effective ways of their interaction were found. The role of the State Libraries in the mutual use of the state and international library resources has grown as the result of their development into the centers of interlending system, Republican legal deposits, centers of scientific and methodological work, of recommendatory bibliography. The contacts with other cultural agencies (apart from libraries) and governmental Republican bodies have been promoted considerably. All these modifications increase the influence of SL on reading participation and library use.

Within the scope of the mentioned functions of the library let us consider the main content and forms of LSL and SL activities in reading and library promotion with special reference to the Central Asian republics.

Reading and reader's interests research has been always tradition in my country and has obtained a systematic character in the LSL and SL activities for the last two decades. Long-term comprehensive programme of the scientific research "Book and reading in the life of the Soviet society" has been implemented during this period by the common efforts of these libraries. The reading public was studied gradually and systematically: representatives of all social and professional groups of the Soviet Society residing in all Union Republics of the USSR and in different types of populated areas, library users and those who do not resort to their services. Standing service of statistical and sociological information on the use of mass libraries was organised. The LSL and SL were the key organizations in the research the results of which provided representative data of great significance for defining the ways of raising the role of book, reading and library.

The analysis of the basic parameters of mass reading covering the aspects of the degree and extent of book reading, its content, and the language range attests the approachment of national cultures of the USSR peoples, including those who lived in the borderlands of Russia. It refers in the first instance to the Republics of the Central Asian region. Since the 50th general conference of IFLA is being held in Africa for the first time and a number of African countries face the tasks similar

to those of the Central Asian Republics during the first years of the Soviet Government, special attention is attached in this paper to the analysis and organization of mass reading and library use in the Central Asian Republics. The readership in these Republics is very vast. Even in village, where the cultural level of the people still lags behind that of the city, 81% of adults belong to the reading public. The reading indicators pertaining to these Republics vary from those in the European part of the USSR only by 10%, which testifies to the active participation of the Soviet people in the development of the international culture.

It is indicative that women of some parts of the country, especially in Central Asia, deprived before the Revolution of a right to culture acquisition, are equal to men today in the make up of readership. Thus, according to the data of the permanent All-Union research "Dynamics of reading and reader's demands in mass libraries" sponsored by the LSL women among the library readers of Kirgizia make up 52.9%, Uzbekistan - 48.4%, Tadzhikistan - 49.5%, Turkmenistan - 47.2%. The indicator of library acquisition by the youth in the Central Asian Republics is also evened up to that of other Republics (young people aged 19-25 years make up from 30 to 40% of library users in some Republics).

Investigation of the readership of mass libraries, particularly of some social and professional groups, shows that those categories of urban and rural proletarian population of Central Asia, who before the Great October Socialist Revolution were bereft of books, make up today the main part of the reading public.

The number of workers and farmers among library users varies in different parts of the country from one-fourth to a half.

The educational level of readers has grown considerably. According to the data of library survey departments, the number of readers with general secondary and special secondary education is as follows: Uzbekistan - 58.8%, Kirgizia - 45.5%, Tadzhikistan - 47.1%, Turkmenistan - 63.9%.

Education qualification is obviously one of the factors which largely influences the degree of reading. In the libraries of Central Asia, as well as in other parts of the country the biggest part of the readers read 10 books a year (from 50% to 70%). Mention should be made of smaller differences today in the ratio of readers who read from 20 to 50 books a year: 27.9% Kirgizia, 24.3% Uzbekistan, 21.6% Tadzhikistan, 15.3% Turkmenistan.

(see next page)

The national - specific and the international are closely interwoven in the content of reading.

The Russian language which in the USSR historically became the language of inter-nationalities' intercourse has a great internationalizing role. Reading in Russian provides an important source of assimilation of out of national experiences and, consequently, of mutual enrichment of the national cultures, without which development of each of them at the present stage is impossible.

Naturally, the international features prevail in the reading on various branches of knowledge since objective knowledge of the world is of general value.

The analysis of readers' preferences and of the volume of printed matter read, carried out by the State Lenin Library, made it possible to identify a number of topics featuring prominently in the reading interests of the overwhelming majority of the population in all the Republics, including the Central Asian ones, these topics being internal policies of the Soviet State, international situation, achievements of sciences and technology, recent historical past of the country related to World War II. The interest shown for these topics reflects the common in the life of the Soviet people, its common aspirations, active life stand, its political consciousness.

The use of reading matter for practical purposes is another sphere of reading cumulating the general. Professional and social activities, education, upbringing of children, desire to be up to the modern house-keeping standards, hobbies - these are the main incentives for the readers to refer to professio-

nal, scientific, educational and popular - scientific literature identical in various Republics.

The State Lenin Library's research data reflect tangible differences as regards language in which reading matter on various branches of knowledge is read. For instance, approximately twice as many people questioned in villages read these books in their native tongue in Central Asia than in the Ukraine. But even in Central Asia the degree of people's using their native tongues while reading professional reading matter varies. This fact substantiates the significance of such practical points, as differentiation in the number of copies of professional reading matter released in the languages of the peoples of the USSR, as well as of determining the basic principles of the building up of library collections on the basis of language.

Reading of fiction literature is marked by a complex combination of the national - specific and the international, which can be traced both in its content and in selection of the language of a book. As to the number of those who read fiction literature, the Central Asian Republics are close to each other and other regions of the country. Fiction literature is read by 92% of mass libraries' users in Uzbekistan, 86.7% in Kirghizia, 93.6% Tadjikistan, 91.3% in Turkmenia, the users' percentage for the whole of the country for this kind of literature being 93%.

Naturally, reading matter in native languages features most prominently in one'reading. However, no national culture of the peoples of the USSR is closed. The notable fact that more than 20% of the rural readership have a developed structure of

fiction reading, prove the point, as apart from their national literature they read also Russian literature as well as literature works of other peoples of the USSR and other countries.

Active development of bilingualism, that is national - Russian bilingual speaking habits, is an effective way to encourage readership interest for other nationalities' literatures and, consequently, to bring closer the national cultures. This process is in the first place typical for the young. For instance, even in multi-nationalities' Central Asian villages up to 25% of all questioned read fiction literature in both languages, while 45% of those who speak only their native language both at home and in their work (or studies) collective, prefer to read Russian literature in the original. More than 70% of them pointed out the fact that they enjoy the originals more than translations.

The data pertaining to the content and language orientation in the Soviet multinational state provide ample ground for the conclusion that a harmonious combination while spreading the best pieces of printed culture, both national and out of national should be the basic principle in the work of all libraries, including National Libraries. The data serve as a scientific base for practical decisions and recommendations to libraries as regards the composition of their collections, forms and methods of catering for libraries' leadership, ways to involve readingwise passive part of the population etc.

These recommendations advanced by the State Lenin Library and the State Libraries of the Union Republics are put across to mass libraries in the course of scientific and methodolo-

gical work. Scientific and methodological activities as a most important function of National Libraries in Socialist countries are aimed primarily at working out and putting into practice most comprehensive, most readily available forms and methods of books dissemination which are up to the modern requirements of readership. In doing so priority is given to ensuring that, catering for its readership, each library adheres to the following lines:

1. Differentiated approach to the reading public; employment of methods most suited for the age, educational and cultural standards, professional and leisure time interests of the readership.

2. Priority of activities combining both educative and entertaining aspects, so that the librarian while preparing and carrying them out is able to ensure an active participation of the readers, and to involve them in a dialogue and arouse their interest for the reading matter recommended or activities carried out.

3. Comprehensive use, while catering for the same readership, of an extensive variety of individual and mass, visual and verbal forms enabling libraries to make library collections fully available, to satisfy and develop readers' interests.

4. Extensive use of mass media channels and various leisure time arrangements for working people; libraries' cooperation with book fans societies, the "Znaniye" ("Knowledge") society, culture houses, museums, radio, TV etc.; books' deliveries to work collectives, production sites and in residential areas where people live.

The libraries in the Republics of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, functioning along the lines common for the whole of the country, are seeking to a maximum degree in their methodological and practical work with their readership to take account of the national traits, specific features of the historical and cultural development, as well as demographic factors and natural conditions of their region.

Among these specific features are multinational composition of the population in the Asian Republics and multilingualism due to it; birth rates higher than in other areas, and, as a consequence, many women's temporary (due to the necessity to take care of their children) staying out of social production; predominance of rural population in the Republics; development of such labour - consuming and specific agricultural branches as cotton-growing and drive-away cattle breeding. All this makes it necessary for the libraries to arrange their work in a special way and to offer appropriate forms of library services.

As has already been pointed out, bilingualism is increasingly spreading in the Central Asian Republics where people of the local or another non-Russian nationality have an equally fluent command of both their mother tongue and Russian. All this makes it necessary for a National library to provide scientific and methodological substantiation for building up mass libraries' collections in these Republics and for publishing policies, which should result in a ratio of the reading matter in local languages and in Russian in their collections which meets the requirements of their readership.

The Central Asian State libraries carry out research and practical work both independently and in cooperation with the State Lenin Library which is aimed at building up an optimal nucleous of nationalities' literature in mass libraries, study the population's requirements for books in two or more languages, work out recommendations to local publishing houses as regards purpose - oriented publishing of the best books for each Republic's libraries.

Works of Russian classical and contemporary Soviet multinational literature, in Russian and translated into local languages, are widely recommended by libraries at books displays, they are discussed at readers' conferences and at discussions with writers.

With due account for their regional economic specifics, the libraries of these Republics pay special attention to catering for rural population and to meeting the requirements of agricultural production. For instance, the State libraries of Kirghizia, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan, and also Kazakhstan having studied the requirements of those employed in rural areas organized systematic library services not only in stationary libraries but also at places where people work - in agricultural work teams, at cattle farms and remote pastures.

Improvement of extensively spread forms of out-library services for workers, employed in drive-away cattle-breeding, features prominently in the scientific and methodological activities of the State libraries. Books are delivered to the people at remote pastures by automobile transport and other means, which resulted in tens of thousands of shepherds becoming permanent

library users. The State libraries analyze and spread advanced experiences as regards the recommendation by libraries of the best books, organization of book reviews, reading of books on special local radio broadcasts for shepherds, cooperation of librarians with cultural and services teams, autoclubs, use of tapes with works of literature recorded on them to be delivered to the above-mentioned places for listening to.

The attention paid by the national libraries to the scientific and methodological substantiation of the activities of mass libraries within the framework of culture complexes, is additionally determined by the fact, that in many rural areas in various Republics they function combining culture houses, rural museums, libraries, and other cultural establishments. The activities in rural culture complexes enable librarians to make a much wider use of books, making them available not only through traditional library practices, but also through club forms, such as readers' and viewers' conferences, topic-oriented conferences held in clubs, amateur performers' activities, etc.

The methodological hand books, compiled by the State libraries as aids for mass libraries, take into account the fact that meetings with best agricultural workers and, especially, folk festivities and ceremonies are utilized by librarians for books dissemination. For instance, spring's arrival and the beginning of a farming season celebrations - Navruz - combine folk traditions and new socialist content. On that day libraries organize book displays, literature conferences, dedicated to the spring, work, Soviet woman - mother and worker, young people's meetings with veterans as well as with the best industrial and creative workers.

Libraries' services made available to the women of local nationalities are a point of special attention in the system of the methodological assistance, given to the libraries of the Soviet Central Asia. The Soviet State pays much attention to ensuring true equality for the women of the East who were oppressed and enslaved before the Revolution, to ensuring their involvement in social production and their higher educational and cultural standards. Even today however a lot of women, especially those who have many children, are engaged primarily in housekeeping and upbringing of children. Mothers who have many children and work in most cases do not have time to visit libraries. That is why, using various forms and methods in their work, libraries seek to make books available in the first place to the work collectives with prevailing women labour, that is agricultural field teams and farms, retail and services establishments, textile factories, etc. Home books deliveries and other out-library home activities are successfully used in villages to cater for women who have many children.

Selection of reading matter for leisure, self-education, professional progress is becoming increasingly difficult for both the reader and the librarian, as mass media have ousted reading somewhat from the leisure time budget; higher educational standards determine greater selectiveness of choice; quantitative and qualitative diversity of the books flow makes it difficult to orient oneself in it.

The State libraries help spread the best books on all branches of knowledge, compiling recommendatory bibliography handbooks themselves and thus promoting coordination of these activities on the national scale. As has been pointed out, the Status

on librarianship in the USSR vests in National libraries the function of a recommendatory bibliography centre, which is accounted for by the exceptional importance of this type of work for organizing mass readership and spread of the book. The publications of the State libraries of the Union Republics constitute a most important link in the national system of recommendatory bibliography handbooks. Along with common functions they play a specific role related to their national specific features.

The State Lenin Library, for instance, published a handbook The Unbreakable Union of the Free Republics, timed for the 60th Anniversary of the USSR. The Republican libraries released handbooks on the occasion of this historic anniversary which through recommended nationalities' literature indicated the place of each respective Republic in the achievements of the USSR.

When preparing recommendatory handbooks, as well as while selecting aspects and topics for scientifc and methodological activities, the National Library takes into account the factor of bilinguality in the national Republics. The State Lenin Library releases handbooks on fiction literature in Russian. They deal with home and foreign classical works, contemporary multinational Soviet literature, and literature of the peoples of the world. Thus, translations into Russian, as well as works of Russian writers find their way to millions and millions of readers in all the Republics, territories and regions, become an inseparable part of the cultural values of all the readership of the multinational State and an element of their personal culture. So, recommendatory handbooks serve to internationalize Soviet peoples' reading.

Libraries in the Union Republics release fiction literature indices published in native languages, which also list publications in Russian. The State libraries in the Union Republics jointly with the State Lenin Library release handbooks on nationalities' literature works published in Russian, thus encouraging identification and consolidation of all that is generally significant in the achievements and original traditions of individual nationalities' cultures.

Shaping of comprehensively versatile personality, which is on the whole encouraged by the system of recommendatory bibliography, presupposes also promotion of training of highly skilled personnel, development of the national economy in the regions through the influence on the content of professional reading and professional self-education on the part of those employed in agroindustrial complexes.

The State libraries including those of the Central Asian Republics and Kazakhstan compile and release a considerable number of recommendatory bibliography handbooks for the workers of the respective Republics. It is worth mentioning that the organization of mass reading as a whole is aimed at ensuring understanding of profound international economic ties of the Republics of our country.

The main lines of activities of a National Library, promoting higher role of reading and libraries in the development of the national Republics, are organically interwoven. Thus, the conclusions drawn on the basis of the research on reading, serving as sociological foundation of the library policies in general, also provide the scientific base for the appropriate

methodological recommendations including those intended to involve people in reading, they contribute to a better substantiated shaping of reading patterns of the Soviet people with the help of recommendatory bibliography handbooks. The methodological recommendations on their use in various situations while communicating with readership, attached to the handbooks, enhance the degree of influence of the recommendatory bibliography on the content of reading, as well as contribute to a better fulfilment of readership's requirements.

Cultural requirements as well as educational and cultural standards of the Soviet people are unswervingly growing in developed socialist society. The National libraries of the Land of the Soviets - organizers of mass reading, performing important social functions (fostering, educational, informational), make use of various forms and methods to promote reading and to cater for the reading public - individual and public, verbal, visual and printed, and contribute to their extensive introduction in the work of all the libraries in the Soviet multinational state.

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, NAIROBI 1984

Division: REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Section:

REGIONAL LIBRARY COOPERATION IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA- A JAPANESE OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT:

A factual description is given about the current various efforts being made on regional cooperation among libraries and information centers within the region. At first, a definition is made on the three phases of regional library cooperation. The first phase is conventional cooperative activities, based on bilateral and/or multilateral arrangements. The second is a regional consortium on more closely agreed working mechanisms, and the third will be a regional library network based on sophisticated computer systems and telecommunication facilities.

A matrix for evolutionary phases of regional cooperation is proposed, and then various types of efforts hitherto made within the region are described on: (A) Cooperative organizations, (B) Bibliographic controls and access, (C) Document access, and (D) Training and education of personnel.

Finally, recommendations are made for establishing future course of joint actions within the region.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In the 1970s, economic growth in the East and Southeastern Asia has been relatively high, compared with other developing countries, except for some Persian Gulf oil producing countries. As a result of such growth, needs for library and information centers, from various sectors of countries, i.e., needs for information for industrial development, for improvement of social activities, for education and research, have been increased qualitatively and quantitatively in almost all countries in the region.

However, most of the libraries and information centers in the region have been still suffering from serious lack of necessary funds, appropriate personnel, technological know-how and suitable facilities.

On the other hand, impacts of information oriented technology like computers, databases and telecommunications come into the scene of the activities of libraries and information centers in the region. On these backgrounds, various kinds of efforts towards regional cooperation have been made, bilaterally or multilaterally during 1970s. These efforts are still in the infant stage of regional cooperation, but have already brought forward topics and lessons worthwhile reconsidering and solving problems related.

2. DEFINITION OF THE PHASES OF REGIONAL LIBRARY COOPERATION

(1) Definition of Phases

At first, I would like to define the evolution of a regional library cooperation in three phases. The first phase will be a conventional cooperation among libraries and information centers within the region, based on bilateral and/or multilateral arrangements. The second phase is a Regional Library Consortium on loose interdependency among member institutions within the region. At this level of cooperation, creation of common standard on bibliographic controls on books and periodicals, creation of the Regional Union Catalog on particular subject areas, establishment of common course of training and education for personnel, would be implemented, if appropriate amount of funds, technology and administrative initiative were given.

In the third phase is a Regional Library Network based on elaborated systems using computers and telecommunications facilities. The functions and working mechanisms among libraries and information centers in this phase are still in a conceptual design and image. There exist a lot of issues to be studied and discussed, especially on its economic and technical aspects, so that the Network may operate effectively.

(2) A Matrix of Regional Library Cooperation and Major Library Activities

Then, I will divide here major activities of library and information centers into four aspects and try to make a matrix for regional library cooperation, being composed of three evolutionary phases above-mentioned and four aspects of library activities.

These aspects are: (a) Organization, (b) Bibliographic control and access, (c) Document access, and (d) Training and education. The matrix is shown in Table 1, which is used as a means of observation and description on various diversified efforts hitherto made by many librarians and information specialists within the region towards a regional cooperation.

TABLE 1: REGIONAL LIBRARY COOPERATION MATRIX

Aspects of Library and Information Center Activities / Phases of Regional Library Cooperation	A. Cooperative Organizations	B. Bibliographic Control and Access	C. Document Control and Access	D. Training and Education
1. Conventional Cooperation, Bilateral and/or Multilateral	(1-A)	(1-B)	(1-C)	(1-D)
2. Regional Consortium	(2-A)	(2-B)	(2-C)	(2-D)
3. Regional Library Network, Based on Computer & Telecommunication Facilities	(3-A)	(3-B)	(3-C)	(3-D)

3. EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN EFFORTS ON REGIONAL COOPERATION

Since late 1960's, various types of international cooperations in certain fields of library activities have taken place, and several regional cooperative arrangements have been made bilaterally and multilaterally in the 70s.

I will describe what was aimed at and was achieved in filling up the matrix I have just stated above.

A. Cooperative organizations

(A-1) Cooperative organizations in the conventional library cooperation

(1) CONSAL (Congress of South East Asian Libraries). This is a framework of regional cooperation established in Singapore in 1970 and drew the attentions of Asian librarians to its goals and activities. The latest convention was CONSAL VI which was held in Singapore in April 1983, which drew large numbers of participants over 390 from 23 countries, i.e., Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Switzerland, UK, USA, New Zealand, France, Denmark, Norway and the Netherlands.

(2) International Conference of Directors of National Libraries on Resource Sharing in Asia and Oceania. The first Conference was held at Canberra in 1979 and the second held

at Tokyo in 1982, with participants from 20 countries, i.e., Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam and UNESCO. The Conference was designed basically to exchange information and experience on national policy on library and information centers in the region.

(3) ASCA Information Program. ASCA means the Association of Science Cooperation in Asia, and has many aspects other than information on which national policy planners on science and technology meet and interact each other.

As for information policy, the ASCA Seminar on Scientific and Technological Information was held in Canberra in 1975, and another Seminar under the same title held in Tokyo in 1981, in which participants came from 9 countries, i.e., Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

(4) SACEP. The South Asia Cooperative Environment Program, established in 1981, has its information program and composed of 10 South Asian countries, i.e., Afganistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, with the Program's headquarters in Sri Lanka.

(A-2) Cooperative Organization, Based on a Regional Consortium

In the Southeastern Asia, an organization for more concrete form of joint efforts has been established in 1978, as National Libraries and Documentation Centers-Southeast Asian Consortium-NDLC-SEA, through financial and technical assistance of the International Development Research Center (IRDC) of Canada.

The Consortium is composed of five member countries, i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The aims at which they are cooperating to implement cover many fields of library and documentation center activities:

(a) to secure availability of published materials among members through reasonable price and time span;
(b) to collect valuable printed materials in the region;
(c) to establish National Bibliographic Record and to adopt a Format for Regional Marc Files;
(d) to diminish language barriers;
(e) to diminish administrative and institutional barriers for free distribution of book materials;
(f) to establish effective telecommunications channels among members.

(A-3) Regional Library and Information Network

The final phase of the Regional Library Cooperation will be a Regional Library and Information Network, based on a sophisticated computer system and telecommunications facilities. No such network exists yet, but a concept developed by UNESCO experts is now under study.

This is a concept on the "Regional Network of Scientific and Technological Information for Development in East and Southeast Asia" which is derived from the discussions at the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, held at Vienna in August 1979.

The proposal that UNESCO put forward envisages: (a) to establish an on-line computerized information network with common standards in all participating countries, (b) to establish linkages with other relevant regional and/or international information systems, and (c) to promote regional self-reliance in information within a framework of global cooperation. This concept is fine, but far too ambitious in the context of current situations prevailing in the region.

B. Bibliographic Control and Access

(B-1) Cooperation for bibliographic control and access on conventional regional and bilateral arrangement

Various kinds of cooperation to increase libraries' controls on bibliographic information and records that are brought forth within and outside of the region have been made bilaterally and regionally.

(a) Exchange of books and periodicals;
(b) Exchange of experience in building up a National Marc;
(c) Exchange of experience in introducing foreign Mark, like LC/Marc, and UK Marc, etc.;
(d) Enrichment of indigenous book collection;
(e) Publication of directories of organizations and specialists in libraries and information centers within the region.

(B-2) Efforts based on a regional consortium

(1) Creation of a regional Marc: This is one of the core projects supported by NLDC-SEA, which has a title of SEAMARC. Each member library is requested to send to the regional center which is located at Universiti Sains Malaysia, respective national bibliographic records so that the Center may process and build up a Regional Marc File.

Participating countries are Thailand, Philippines, and Malaysia where production of national bibliographies have been computerized on Marc format. This would be the first regional database, formulated on an international standard and procedure and be a cornerstone for projected Regional Network for STI for Development by UNESCO. It was scheduled originally to print out the first volume of the Regional Catalog in hard copy and COM by May 1983.

(2) ISDS-SEA (International Serial Data System-Southeast Asia). This was established in 1976 as a result of a discussion at CONSAL III with its center at the National Library of Thailand. The ISDS-Sea Center serves as a regional node and liaison center for ISDS Center in Paris.

The primary purpose of ISDS-SEA is the creation and maintenance of a regional bibliographic data files pertaining to serials published within the region. However, the center is now in several difficulties such as a dearth of funds and trained staffs, insufficient technical capacity of computer software, and lack of appropriate information about new titles and lost ones.

(3) AIBA Program

AIBA is an abbreviation of the Agricultural Information Bank for Asia, an FAO program. The aim was to establish a regional center for AGRIS database in Southeast Asia, SEARCA. The Center is located at the University of the Philippines at

Los Banos, taking responsibilities for input and output work for AGRIS Center at Rome, publication of a newsletter, AGRIASIA, supply of SDI services using AGRIS tapes, and document duplicating services from microfilming to member countries. Participating countries to AIBA program are 8 in total, i.e., five NLDC-SEA countries, and Bangladesh, Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea. As for AGRIS, Japan has another local center which links directly with Rome. The Research Information Center (RIC) of Tsukuba Agricultural Research Complex inputs approximately 8,000 records every year to AGRIS database. There is currently no direct linkage between the regional center at Philippines and the Japanese Center.

(4) The Masterlist of Southeast Asian Microforms.
This is an Union List of microfilm on Southeast Asian subjects which are housed within the region. The Union List has already been published, containing 14,000 titles. The project is a on-going one, receiving from participants cards of their holdings to the National Library of Singapore, where the center is located.

(5) The Information Update Service of AIT.
Since 1979, computerized SDI services are rendered by the Library and Regional Documentation Center of the Asian Institute of Technology at Bangkok, Thailand. The project is being acrried out by first providing SDI services using standard profiles of Science Citation Index, and then in its second phase provide individualized profiles for CAS, SSCI, NTIS, etc.

(B-3) Bibliographic controls based on a Regional Network

The SEAMARC and SEAPRINT project by NLDC-SEA, would be a typical example of the emphasis on regional library network, if it is implemented as it was conceived by its planners. However, many things still have to be done before various elements composing the network begin to operate.

C. Document Control and Access

Documentary delivery to clientele is ultimate end of library activity, whereas bibliographic control and access is a means to that end. Therefore, an efficient, precise, and inexpensive delivery system of the documents, whether in the forms of originals, photocopies or microforms, will be a final goal, even in a regional cooperative activities.

(C-1) Cooperation for document delivery on conventional phase

(1) Duplication service on request by JICST.

JICST (Japan Information Center of Science and Technology) has supplied the photoduplication of journal articles in science and technology, published in western countries and in Japan, on request. The number of photocopies of journal articles JICST sends annually to users within the region is on the order of 4,000-5,000, of which about 1,000 copies are for

request from Korea.

This service rendered by JICST has to be improved and enlarged very much in its quantity and efficiency, because this organization would be one of the largest holders of western scientific and technological journals in Japan.

(2) Document Service Provided by SEAMIC

SEAMIC (South East Asian Medical Information Center) was established in 1971, as a contact window of MEDLARS in Tokyo and has been providing photoduplication service of journal articles on medical and related subject fields for Southeast Asian clientele free of charge, IR (information retrieval) services and public relations activities.

Duplication requests to SEAMIC in recent years are shown below:

Photoduplication Service by SEAMIC (Unit: Number)

Countries	1981	1982
Indonesia	6,542	5,440
Malaysia	358	276
Philippines	110	64
Singapore	626	880
Thailand	1,222	1,638
TOTAL:	8,857	8,298

Source: SEAMIC

(3) Supply of Journal Article Abstracts in English on Selected Fields by JICST

JICST has been editing JICST-STI Bibliographic Data-file from articles of 6,810 foreign and 4,050 Japanese periodicals on science and technology since its inauguration of operation in 1957. A recent number of records processed annually is 724,811 in 1982.

It has started on-line information retrieval services for Japanese domestic users through its computer network in 1976, covering ten major subject fields. After ASCA Seminar in 1981, JICST inaugurates the publication of English translation of index on Japanese original journal articles with abstracts, every quarterly in printed matter, on following two fields.

(a) Agro-industries Series, 2,000 records with abstracts, annually, the work for which is subcontracted with the Japan Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists (JAALD);

(b) Renewable energy Series, 1,000 records with abstracts annually;

(c) Electro-technology, now under preparation for distribution from 1984;

(d) Index on on-going research subjects in Japanese research institutions, English Version, Vol. 1, 1981 and Vol. 2, 1983.

These English translated Japanese journal article index have been currently distributed to about 180 libraries in research institutions and universities in ACSA member countries and to some of international organizations, such as ESCAP, UNIDO, UN University, etc.

(C-2) Documentary Delivery Arrangement Based on NLDC-SEA

A possible model for a document delivery system for cooperation at the regional level was presented by a Malaysian expert at CONSAL V in 1981, based on a practical observation.

There proposed two concept models of cooperation, i.e., (a) a regional comprehensive supply center along the lines of the BLLD, and (b) a regional special supply center. Such a model will be worthwhile for further study and discussion. The current level of regional document delivery cooperation is not relatively high and sufficient for a sound basis of any type of regional supply center yet.

The following survey shows the current volume of inter-library loans within the Consortium members.

INTER-LIBRARY LOANS WITHIN SEA IN 1980

(Unit: Number of ILL requests)

Country	Within Country	To Foreign Countries	of which BLLD(%)
Indonesia	2,185	3,244	2,024 (62.2)
Malaysia	2,688	1,450	1,208 (83.8)
Singapore	1,400	457	242 (52.9)
Thailand	893	588	105 (17.9)
Philippines	na	na	
Total	7,166	5,739	3,579 (62.4)

Source; Wijasuriya and Abdullah Kadir, Inter-Library Lending; a Southeast Asian perspective, Paper presented at 46th Congree of IFLA Manila.

(C-3) Document Delivery Systems on Regional Library Network

After establishing effective telecommunication network among libraries and information centers within the region, in the future, it will be technically feasible to have an electronic document delivery channel, using at first facsimile network and then opt-electrical document process and transmission channel. However, there are number of difficulties in economical and legal aspects it involves, which has to be investigated in advance.

D. Training and Education of Personnel

Manpower development has been drawing serious attentions at CONSAL (Conference of Southeast Asian Librarians) meeting since its first Conference in 1970 when papers were presented on regional cooperation and survey of manpower. At CONSAL II in 1973, one of the focuses of the discussions was on the education and training for librarianship, and at CONSAL IV in 1978, a UNESCO paper titled "Guidelines for Formulation of a Policy on Education, Training, and Development of Library and Information Personnel" was presented by A. Neelameghan. Long before this paper, UNESCO has been putting its emphasis to have an education and training program in information science in all countries in the region, repeated and precipitated the necessity of manpower development, on the basis of regional cooperation. It culminates to the project of "The Postgraduate Training Course for Science Information Specialists in Southeast Asia," which started on August 1978.

This course is an inter-country project of the Governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand, hosted by the University of the Philippines, Institute of Library Science (UP/ILS).

It is financially supported by several international organizations, such as UNDP, UNESCO, FAO, Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, Lee Foundation, British Council/Ministry

of Overseas Development and International Development Research Center (Canada). Principal local part is supported by the National Science Development Board (NSDB) of the Government of the Philippines.

The Course offers three types of programmes currently:

(a) Main course. A one academic year (about 9 months) full-time course on major aspects of the design, development and operation of information systems and services.

(b) Short course/seminars/workshops. Two or three each year devoted to specific topics and designed to refresh and update knowledge and capability of participants.

(c) Special study programme, which is designed to meet specific needs of individuals.

The number of participants is shown in the following table.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, BY COUNTRY, PER SCHOOL YEAR

COUNTRY	SCHOOL YEAR			
Southeast Asia	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	Total
Indonesia	2	4	6	12
Malaysia	-	2	2	4
Philippines	15	10	10	35
Singapore	-	1	1	2
Thailand	3	5	4	12
Sub-total:	20	22	23	65
Other Asian countries				
Bangladesh	-	-	2	2
China (PR)	-	-	2	2
Nepal	-	-	1	1
Sri Lanka	-	-	1	1
South Korea	-	1	1	2
Sub-total:		1	7	8
Grand total:	20	23	30	73

Source: "Intra- and Inter-Regional and International Cooperation in Library and Information Manpower Development," by A. Neelameghan & U.G. Picache, in Library Educating Programmes in Developing Countries with Special Reference to Asia, IFLA Publication 20, London, 1980.

4. SUGGESTIONS ON THE COURSE OF JOINT ACTIONS IN NEAR FUTURE

Many suggestions, advice and recommendations have been made on the seminars, meetings, conferences and workshops, hitherto held in the region, on the cooperative plans to formulate broad national policy for library and information service, to improve access to and control on information resources, and to provide adequate funds, techniques and personnel to existing organizations within the region.

Many of these suggestions, advice and recommendations are still keeping its validities, and left considerable parts to the hands of future decision makers to be brought into effect. It seems to me that the most important factor to implement premises hitherto suggested will at first be creative initiative, leadership and stubborn courage in the side of librarians, and in the second, creation of funding resources.

It is by no means the reverse order, that if money came first the needs would be satisfied through the efforts of librarians. It would be easily understood when one thinks of situations of librarians working in the developed countries. They are still suffering from scarcity of funds as well as adequate personnel, amid relative abundance of high technological tools. It is through an initiative and leadership of librarians, not by a benevolence of the Governments and donor organizations that build a channel of

funds flow to the right ends. For the suggestions of course of joint actions in near future, I would like to renumerate several important issues.

(1) Training and education shall be identified as the first priority for the region. Therefore, it will be the most urging task to reinforce existing training course so that more students and participants may be accommodated on more diversified and advanced subjects.

It will also be important to locate appropriate institutions where new training courses other than existing ones can be established to offer opportunities to the librarians in the region, a course on overall library operations as on information handling on particular subject areas that would be necessary for developing needs.

(2) Directories on library, documentation centers, information brokers, information specialists and associations within the region are indispensable tool for reference works. It shall be emphasized to maintain, revise and enlarge existing directories and to start new versions on other subject fields.

(3) In some information centers in the region, on-line information retrieval services, using computerized facilities, have been made available in recent years. It will be useful to increase current awareness capabilities of Asian librarians,

through enlarged SDI services, offered whether in on-line or in off-line mode, of existing centers and of various information centers now operating in the developed countries in the region.

A kind of subsidizing mechanism is to be made available for the clientele in the developing part of the region.

(4) Provision of support, from international organizations and developed countries, to the effort to design and operate a computerized information services is pressing needs.

These are the support for various relevant activities:

(a) Acquiring computer hardware and software;
(b) Designing appropriate application systems for the particular needs of libraries and information centers;
(c) Developing bibliographic databases from locally generated information;
(d) Providing access to internationally commercially available data bases;
(e) Delivering back-up literature, in the form of photocopies and microforms;
(f) Improving telecommunication facilities;

(5) It will be critically important to inaugurate some kinds of joint action to improve poor value and recognition

among policy-makers and decision-makers on library resources and information services in the region.

In the East and Southeast Asian Region, and in the Pacific Rim Region surrounding it, there exist developed countries, so-called NICS (Newly Industrialized) countries and developing countries. This mixed regional structure could be utilized in much effective way to organize cooperating and supporting mechanism for the libraries and information centers in the region. In this context, responsibilities of developed countries in the region are large, especially those of Japan shall be reconsidered seriously because of its vast resources in informations and in science and technology. Any advice, encouragement, and even pressure to Japanese librarians from Asian colleges will be appreciated.###

Floppy: MIYAKAWA/Name: MIYAKAWA, by KN

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, NAIROBI 1984

Division: Education and Research

Section: RT for Editors of Library Journals

WINDOW OF CHINESE LIBRARIES

-- a brief sketch of BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE, the Learned journal of Chinese libraries

by
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Window of Chinese Libraries
- a brief sketch of BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE, the learned journal of Chinese libraries

The BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE, a learned journal of Chinese libraries, is the official organ of the China Society of Library Science.

When in 1979 the China Society of Library Science was established, one of the major tasks set for it was the "publishing of a journal for the Society." This idea was further specified in the 3rd article of the Statutes of the Society, which was passed at the Inaugural Meeting of the Society in July the same year.

The BULLETIN, a learned quarterly journal of a variety of interests, concentrates on library science, bibliography, library/information science, and documentation. It takes as its responsibility to announce the policy and tasks of library service, to investigate into the status, the role and function of libraries at large; to introduce the experience of library work at home and abroad; to find out ways to develop the efficacy of library collection and to strengthen information service; to carry on studies of new experience and new methods in library science; to inquire into the relation of the latest developments such as library standardization and sophisticated library technology with the traditional items such as bibliology, bibliography and documentation,

including the relation between inheritance and development, and the mutual influence; and lastly to promote international cultural interflow. Within the five years since its founding, this journal has served as the window offering views on: the principles and specific policies of library service as advocated by the Chinese government; how the journal organized the exchange of experience in library service and the exchange of results of research; the uplifting of professional standard as well as of basic knowledge in theories; the promotion of the nation's library service; and the development of international cultural exchange.

The work of editing and publishing the BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE has enjoyed the trust and support extensively from library staffs throughout the country. Thus, the BULLETIN is increasingly raising its scholarly quality, being alert to the active thoughts of the time. Twenty issues of the BULLETIN have appeared in the five years, whereby about 1,000 authors' 850 articles totalling 4,000,000 words were presented to the public. Its circulation saw yearly increases. Up to 1984, the circulation is 27,000, an increase of 59 percent compared with the year it started in 1979. Aside from the circulation at home, the BULLETIN also has exchange arrangements with institutions in over 30 countries and areas abroad. Some other 300 institutions in over 30 countries and areas have taken subscription

with Guoji Shudian direct.

The People's Republic of China attaches great importance to the development and the theoretical study of library service. Early in the 1950s and the middle of 1960s, the government had entrusted the National Library of Beijing successively with the publishing of three national journals of the library profession, i.e., LIBRARY SERVICE BULLETIN OF LIBRARIANSHIP and the quarterly LIBRARY. These had done an important part in duly recording the experience and result of research reaped during the first golden period of China, in relevantly developing the basic theories, as well as in promoting the library service of the whole country. (Please refer to the article "3 Periodicals Edited by the National Library of Peking: Retrospect" carried in BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE no. 3, 1982.) The present BULLETIN has inherited and developed the characteristic traditions of these three journals by maintaining the dependence of the growth of a professional journal on the actual status of the nation's social economy and cultural construction while keeping abreast of the key work of the government and the Communist Party, laying stress on the trend of development of libraries home and abroad, bearing always in mind the library's service to readers and its contribution to the nation's socialist revolution and construction. Thus the BULLETIN worked in close cooperation with the broad masses of library workers, sharing with them the anxiety and effort for a common aim.

In the period after the smash of "Gang of Four," specially when the country has shifted its focus to serving the socialist modernization, Chinese libraries enjoyed their springtime and entered into a significant period of development in their history. In order to reflect some highlights experienced by Chinese libraries in this period, the BULLETIN in its no. 1 of 1982 and no. 1 of 1984 carried each an article entitled "Major Events in China's Libraries Today" which is a compilation of major events took place in China's library circles from 1979 to 1983. Below are some examples:

After the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party approved in 1980 the "Outlined Report on Library Service," and suggested the setting up under the Ministry of Culture, the Administration Bureau of Library Affairs, a National Working Committee for University Libraries was set up under the Ministry of Education in 1981. These, together with the already established CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE and the library societies of provincial, municipal and autonomous regional levels, marked a new period of organized, well guided scholarly investigation and development of the library profession.

In accordance with the "Outlined Report on Library Service" the State Council and its subordinate departments promulgated a series of statutes and regulations concerning the work of libraries. The State Council promulgated in 1982 the "Provisional Regulations for Vocational Titles

for Library and Archival Professionals"; the Chinese Academy of Sciences worked out in 1979 the "Provisional Regulations of Library/Information Work for the Chinese Academy of Sciences"; the Ministry of Education issued in 1981 "Working Regulations for University Libraries in the People's Republic of China"; in 1982 the Ministry of Culture revised through discussion the "Regulations of Work of Provincial, Municipal and Autonomous Regional Libraries," etc. These regulations formed an important basis for library services.

Since 1978 the government has laid stress on the training and education of professional librarians. In China there are presently 19 universities/colleges which offer specialized courses in library science, in scientific information, and in information retrieval; some of which have further set up schools of library and information science, and have been allowed to confer master's degrees. This is a ten-fold increase, compared with two universities in 1977 which offered courses in library science.

In recent years, the government has also laid heavy stress on the construction of library buildings. Not only did the libraries of universities and research institutes have an increase in the scale of their buildings, 19 provincial, municipal, or autonomous regional libraries also had, or are planning new buildings. A project of a new building for the National Library of Beijing having been included in the country's key projects of

construction, is now being constructed with full speed, and is an event attracting the attention at home and abroad.

The above-mentioned facts show that in order to satisfy the needs in creating the material as well as the spiritual civilization and to satisfy the needs in the new technological revolution, the library service in China not only has enlarged it scope and accelerated its development, but also has made much progress in the degree of organizedness and in quality of service, all of which are very encouraging.

Other highlights in library field of this period are recorded in "Major Events in China's Libraries Today" which is being attached herewith, for providing an outline of development of China's library service in recent years for the information of our colleagues from different countries.

MAJOR EVENTS
in
CHINA'S LIBRARIES TODAY
1978-1981

1. May 26, 1984 the Secretariat of Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party heard and approved the "Outlined Report on Library Service" and made a decision to set up below the Ministry of Culture and Administration Bureau of Library Affairs.

2. May 16, 1981 Song Renqiong, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, and Kang Keqing, president of All-China Women's Federation, and concurrently chairwoman of the National Coordination Committee of Juvenile Work received and spoke to representatives of the National Forum of Juvenile Library Service. The Forum was held in Beijing under joint auspices of the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education and the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China.

3. August 5, 1981 the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party issued the Directive to Attend to People's Cultural Life. In December the same year the Ministry of Culture convened a National Meeting Commending Advanced Units and Personages in Culture and Arts in Rural Area. A total of 20 advanced units and 21 outstanding persons from district and county libraries, or from libraries of lower levels were landed.

4. January 30, 1981 the State Council promulgated "Provisional Regulations on Vocational Titles for Librarians, Archivists and Information Personnel" which came into force since then in library circles all over the country.

5. The project of a new building for the National Library of Beijing approved by the late Premier Zhou Enlai, after having the architectural design worked out and necessary preparations done, was ratified in September 1981 by the State Council to start construction within the year 1982.

6. Following the will of the late Premier Zhou Enlai "The National Bibliography of Chinese Old and Rare Books" was being compiled by coordination of library circles, and under full support from relevant sections. A mimeographed draft of component parts are presently sent in succession for perusal and comment of experts in proper fields.

7. The China Society of Library Science was established in 1979 as a collective member of the China Association for Science and Technology. Since then the Society has recruited members, sponsored scholarly activities started its official organ BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE, and has promoted research in library science and developed the cause of library service.

8. November 1981 the National Forum on Provincial Public Library Service was convened by Ministry of Culture for discussing the revision of "Regulations of Work of Provincial, Municipal and Autonomous Regional Libraries"; in September 1981, the National Working Conference of University Libraries was convened under the auspices of the Ministry of Education. The "Working Regulations for University Libraries in the People's Republic of China" was issued after the Conference by the Ministry of Education, and a Working Committee of Chinese University Libraries was set up; in December 1978 the Chinese Academy of Sciences held its Conference on Library/Information Service and worked out the "Provisional Regulations of Library/ Information Work for the Chinese Academy of Sciences."

9. February 1979 the Bibliography and Document Press was founded. Besides continuing the publishing and distribution of unified catalogue cards for books in China and in western languages, this Press has also edited and published a number of monographs and periodicals on specialized subjects, as well as bibliographies and documents and other library materials.

10. A revised 2nd edition of "Classification - A System in Use in Chinese Libraries" appeared in 1980. A revised 2nd edition of the first volume of "Classification Rules of the Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences" was published in 1979. "Chinese Thesaurus" (tentative) appeared in 1980.

11. In 1981, the number of universities possessing a Faculty of Library Science, and colleges devoted to Library Science came up to 19, which revealed marked progress in the education of library science in this country.

12. In 1981 the China Society of Library Science resumed its legal status in International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). A Chinese Delegation attended the 47th General Conference of IFLA in August the same year. In March 1981 the Technical Committee of International Standards Organization held its 19th Meeting (ISO/TC 46) in Nanjing, China.

MAJOR EVENTS

IN

CHINA'S LIBRARIES TODAY

1982-1983

1. The cultural aspect refers to the development of undertakings such as education, science, art and literature, the press and publication, broadcasting and television, public health and physical culture, and libraries and museums, as well as the raising of the level of general knowledge of the people. It is an important requisite both for the building of a material civilization and for the raising of people's political consciousness and moral standards.

September 1, 1982

It was indicated in the Report on the Sixth Five-Year Plan submitted at the Fifth Session of the Fifth National People's Congress that: During the Sixth Five-Plan period, there well be an appropriate growth in such cultural undertakings as .... libraries, museums and cultural centres..... In the main, all cities will have museums, all counties libraries and cultural centres, and all townships cultural stations.

Serious efforts should be made to improve the cultural facilities in the national minority areas and border regions.

November 30, 1982

It was stipulated in the twenty-second article of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China adopted by the Fifth National People's Congress at its Fifth Session that: the state promotes the development of literature and art, the press, broadcasting and television undertakings, publishing and distribution services, libraries, museums, cultural centres and other cultural undertakings, that serve the people and socialism, and sponsors mass cultural activities.

December 4, 1982

We must improve our radio and TV programmes, the movie industry and the work of publishing, printing and distribution and build more and better libraries, scientific and technological centres, museums, archives, cultural centres, youth and children's palaces and sports facilities so as to meet the needs of our people especially the young, for study and recreation.

June 6, 1983

2. The Ministry of culture worked out a 1983-2000 plan for developing public libraries in China. The target for development, the capital construction, the training of professional staffs and growth in work have been drafted for the libraries of China during the Sixth Five-Year Plan, and the Seventh Five-Year Plan; and even up to the end of the century. Also drafted were the measures of implementation.

In December 1982, the 2nd Plenary Session of the Working Committee of Chinese University Libraries was held in Beijing on the subject of how to create a new situation in the field of university libraries. Leading comrades Deng Liqun, He Dongchang, Huang Xinbai and others attended the Session.

In March 1983, the Committee for Publishing, Books and Information of the Chinese Academy of Sciences undertook a critical survey of the Library of the Branch Academy in Shanghai. The topics comprised in the survey were task orientation, academic leadership, vocational work, effects of service, building and equipment, system of organization, personnel at different levels, etc. By employing this form of survey, the Committee effectively exercised academic leadership to its subordinate libraries.

3. In October 1982, the National Library of Beijing celebrated its 70th anniversary. Leading comrades Deng Liqun and Zhu Muzhi talked to the gathering. And celebrities of science and literary circles, Hua Logeng, Lu Shuxiang, Zhang Guangdou, Yang Le, Cao Jinghxa, Zang Kejia, Lin Mohan, He Jingxhi and others wrote articles or autographed for the occasion.

In the same year Beijing University Library also marked its 80th anniversary, and Tianjian Municipal Library celebrated its 75th year. These libraries categorized as a type transformed at an early date from feudal book-keeping quarters to a modern library. The National Library of Beijing and the Beijing University Library had been led or supported by the prestigious Cai Yuanpei, Li Tazhao and Lu Xun.

4. In December 1982 the Ministry of Culture sponsored a National Conference Commending Advanced Units and Personnels of Children's Libraries. Speeches were given by leading comrades Wang Zhen, Deng Liqun and Zhu Muzhi at closing and prize-giving ceremony.

5. In 1983 the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in its written reply to the "Report Calling on Workers and Employees to Read More Books" submitted by Leading Party Group of All-China Federation of Trade Unions, indicated that "To know well Marxism,

Mao Taedong thought and also modern scientific and cultural knowledge is the urgent need for building up of socialist modernization." "To organize more workers and employees into book-reading is an important mass work, and an important measure to strengthen and improve the Party's work of propaganda and education, as well as the work of political ideology." "Let the trade unions, the Communist Youth League and various departments for propaganda and education fully play their parts in organizing into close cooperation such units as publishers, press and periodicals, libraries, cultural centres, cultural stations, clubs, etc., thus to attract more workers and employees into book-reading activities."

In December 1982, the Administration Bureau of Library Affairs under the Ministry of Culture issued "Notice to Libraries of All Levels to support book-reading." Libraries are actively fulfilling their jobs.

6. On July 6, 1983 Beijing Symposium on Library Work in National Minority Areas was held. Librarians from five national minority autonomous regions, such as Inner Mongolia, Tibet, Etc., and from eight multi-national provincies such as Yunnan, etc., took part

in the discussion of the means to develop the library service of these areas each according to the local characteristics. All attendants of the Symposium were received by leading comrades Xi Zhongxun, Deng Liqun, Yang Jingren, Zhou Peiyuan, Zhu Muzhi and others.

The above was released by Radio Beijing as a news item in 39 languages and 4 dialects.

7. In 1983, following the directive of Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, an exhibition entitled "Books and Pictures Showing the Dissemination of Works of Karl Marx in China" was given under the co-sponsorship of the Institute for the Compilation and Translation of Works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, the National Library of Beijing and the Museum of History. Leading comrades Wang Zhen, Deng Liqun, Zhu Muzhi, Jiang Nanxiang, Wang Huide and others saw the exhibition. A special column in the BULLETIN OF CHINA SOCIETY OF LIBRARY SCIENCE was devoted to the dissemination of works of Marx in China's history, and an article entitled "Marx in Library" was included in the column, as well as sets of pictures of relevant books.

8. In December 1983, the China Society of Library Science convened its 2nd Representative Conference. In response to the call to "Revive China," the Conference put forward the tasks of making the library a front for publicizing socialist spiritual civilization, enhancing the study of basic theories of library science and getting ready to receive the new technological revolution. The Conference heard and examined the Report of Work of the Council of the Society, revised and passed the Statutes of the Society (1983), elected the Second Council of the Society, and a Standing Council, and made decisions upon its system of organization and the persons to be responsible for the various posts.

9. In September 1983, the new building for the National Library of Beijing which was approved by the late Premier Zhou Enlai, had its foundation stone laid. Comrade Deng Shaoping inscribed the name "National Library of Beijing" for the new building. Comrades Deng Liqun, Yen Jici, Qian Changzhao, Ye Shengtao, Zhu Muzhi, Chen Xitong and others spaded soil onto the foundation stone.

10. "The National Bibliography of Chinese Old and Rare Books," another item willed by the late Preimier Zhao Enlai, has been carried on for two years by separate

component parts under coordination of library circles and full support from relevant sections. The part of Jing (classical works) is now being checked by experts.

"Synopsis of Chinese Old and Rare Books" was off the Press.

In 1983, of the "General National Bibliography of Chinese Books 1911-1949" two parts to be prepared by the National Library of Beijing, "Linguistics and philology" and "Foreign literature," had their manuscripts finalized. The General Bibliography took in about 90 per cent of books published during that period, with the number of items surpassed 110,000. It was planned to be set forth in 17 to 20 volumes, with synopsis supplied for all scholarly works of reference value. Most of the books mentioned in the General Bibliography were kept in the collections of the National Library of Beijing, the Shanghai Library, or the Municipal Library of Chongqing.

In August 1983 the Chinese Academy of Sciences called a meeting on the compilation of the Union Catalogue of Periodicals in Western Languages kept in the Academy. The meeting studied such questions as the title of "rules" guiding this catalogue, the over-all composition, unit of entry and the problem of the merging of traditional

entries with computerized data. This catalogue is now under active compilation. It was planned to have ready the data base of the Union Catalogue of Western Languages Periodicals in the holdings of Chinese Academy of Science by 1985.

11. In July 1983, the National Standards, People's Republic of China accepted the General Bibliographical Descriptors and "Rules for Entry for Periodical Retrieval" as national standards to be effective as from April 1 of 1984.

In May 1983 Chinese delegates participated the 20th General Conference of International Standards Organization (ISO/TC46). The Conference which was convened every other year had the latest one took place in April 1981 in Nanjing, China.

12. In 1982 Chinese delegation took part in the Conference on Chinese Information Processing, which is the seventh international conference on Chinese information processing in last two years. In China, symposiums on this subject were held yearly since 1980.

13. In 1983 the government decided to set up ten reproduction centres, one in the National Library of Beijing, others were to be set in libraries of some provinces or municipalities, including Shanghai and Sichuan province. These ten libraries were required to immediately undertake

Preparatory work. And priority should be given to the microfilming of documents and classical works in their own collection. Plan would be made afterwards for establishing a microfilming network, according to needs and rational geographical distribution.

14. In accordance with the government project for development of public libraries, also in accordance with the Ministry of Education's "Opinion about developing and improving library education," and the Chinese Academy of Sciences' "Memorandum to set up colleges for training managerial personnel for the Chinese Academy of Sciences," every large administrative district was to have one college for library science, while the better qualified provinces were to build up vocational schools of senior middle school level, and to strengthen the training of managerial personnel. As a result, beginning 1983, this country possessed 19 universities which offer the major subjects of library science, scientific information and automated information retrieval.

Presently, the system of public libraries, of university libraries and of academic libraries each operate correspondence courses, spare-time college or vocational training classes. Library schools of senior

high school level are founded by educational departments of provincial or municipal authorities.

Up to 1983 there were three universities/colleges which were qualified to donate master's degrees.

15. After the China Society of Library Science had its legal membership in IFLA resumed and sent its first delegation to the IFLA General Conference in 1981, the Society followed up by sending delegation annually to the 48th and 49th General Conference as from August 1982.

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, NAIROBI 1984

The ROTNAC meeting 22. August 1984

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CENTRAL SERVICE TO PUBLIC AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES IN NORWAY

by

Harald Granheim

Central service to public and school libraries in Norway.

The Rotnac meeting in Nairobi 22. August 1984

Harald Granheim

The Norwegian Library Bureau - A/L Biblioteksentralen - is the central service institution for public and school libraries in Norway.

Biblioteksentralen was inaugurated as a cooperative society in 1952.

The State, the local authorities, The Norwegian Library Association and The Central Association of Norwegian municipalities are the shareholders of the concern.

Central service to the libraries started, however, already in1902 in Norway. The initiative at that time was taken by the Ministry of Church and Education.

The Ministry started to publish lists of books recommended to the libraries. In order to make it easy for the libraries to provide these books, the Ministry entered into an agreement with a private firm to bind the books for the libraries and to sell bookaccessories.

Another matter of great importance which took place that same year, was the introduction of Dewey's system in the Norwegian public and school libraries. This made centralized classification and cataloguing of books possible. Later on it led to production and sale of printed catalogue cards.

Well, that was the beginning and today more than 80 years later, centralized classifying and cataloguing, sale of bookreviews from newspapers, offering and sale of books are still the most important activities of Biblioteksentralen.

The rules of A/L Biblioteksentralen read as follows:

"The purpose of the cooperative company is by sale and production to obtain for the members:

1. Books (in paperback and publishers binding)
2. Library binding
3. Library material and equipment
4. Bibliographical aids"

The library structure in a country is of great importance when planning and developing central library services.

Before I give a detailed orientation about Biblioteksentralen's activities, I will therefore say some words about the library structure in Norway.

Norway must be said to be a geographic anomaly. The length of the country is 1100 miles and the area is 324.000 square kilometers. Although the majority of the four million inhabitants live in the southern part of the country, people also are scattered along the very long coastline, along the fjords and on the islands. The country is divided into 19 counties and those again into 454 municipalities. There are 159 municipalities with less than 3.000 inhabitants and 171 have between 3.000 and 8.000 inhabitants. Instead of building up rather bulky centers, we have therefore found it natural to strengthen our small library units as a means of both keeping up library services and following the population pattern of the outskirts. This policy, which is at present accepted throughout Norway, also permeates the Libraries Act. There are in all around 1400 public libraries and 3800 elementary school libraries in Norway.

Library legislation

The Libraries act was first passed in 1935, but it was not until its revision i 1949 that public libraries and elementary school libraries were made compulsory. According to the Libraries Act,

there shall be a public library under each local authority, regardless of the number of inhabitants, possibly also branch libraries, and a library in all the corresponding primary schools. Furthermore, a minimum limit is set on the financial obligations of each local authority, and if a state refund is to be received for any of the expenses, a number of special demands met regarding library premises, qualifications of librarians and so on.

State grants

The current Libraries Act came into force in 1972. The greatest change in principle, which it implied, was a differentiation in state refunds to the municipalities. These are now given according to a scale varying from 25 to 85 per cent, based upon the financial situation of each municipality. Thus, most municipalities in the northernmost counties get 85 per cent of their expenses for salary and books repaid by the state. The purpose is, of course, to offer as many as possible of Norway's inhabitants - wherever they may live - as nearly the same service as possible, and to make the school library of every child, whether he attends a school of 500 or one of only 10 pupils, an effective instrument in the school's pedagogic activities.

I will come back to this later on, but I will in this connection mention that part of the state grant to the municipality pass through Biblioteksentralen as a kind of working capital.

Offering of books and bookreviews

Our book sales activities are mostly concentrated towards public and school libraries. We give the same offer to every public and school library whatever their size.

The major publishers are organized in the publishers' union. We have an agreement with the union, giving the conditions for sale etc. It is about the same conditions which

local booksellers have got. There are local bookshops in about every second municipality in Norway.

Because of the lack of booksellers in more than half of the municipalities, the offer from Biblioteksentralen is the only one for these libraries.

Every public and school library has an account in Biblioteksentralen, where part of the state grant is placed, as I mentioned earlier, and this to a great extent form the basis of our system for offering books. It gives us a capital to buy books in bulk, do the binding and processing and put the books in stock before offers are sent out.

Buying in bulk, gives us the advantage of the highest discount from the publishers. We can therefore give 20% discount to the libraries, while the local booksellers only can give 10%. The state also pays the freight from Biblioteksentralen to the libraries.

Our way of operation depends on a clos cooperation between the publishers and Biblioteksentralen.

This relates also to publishers not being members of the Publishers Association.

We have regularly meetings with representatives of the publishing firms and can follow the book production step by step - we receive information about every single book and sample copies - either of the complete book or proof copy.

As mentioned earlier the books are classified and catalogued before being sent to the libraries. This brings me to some information about the Norwegian national bibliography.

The Norwegian national bibliography

The Norwegian national bibliography has for many years been in the hands of the University library of Oslo, which has the functions of a national library. This bibliography of books and periodical articles is produced from a data base.

Our bibliographic department is cooperating with the University library in this field in order to avoid, as far as possible, a duplication work.

Special problems for our central cataloguing

In our central cataloguing we have to take into account the practice and special problems of the public and school libraries. Moreover, we have to, in time to follow the book offers from A/L Biblioteksentralen which very often might be ahead of the national bibliography.

Finally our central cataloguing do furnish the catalogue cards with subject headings and tracing as well as content notes which the national bibliography does not do.

Numbers of books catalogued

Annually about 2.500 titles are being centrally catalogued buy the department, whilst the national bibliography contains 4-5000 titles of books and in addition some 2000 titles of pamphlets.

We are then, making a selection of the titles which primarily consist of Norwegian books, some few books in foreign languages, cassettes and sound books and finally a selection of periodical articles.

How are the printed cards distributed?

The total number of printed cards produced exceeded 5 million in 1983. The majority of these cards are distributed to the libraries:

1. All books offered to the public and sdhool libraries are furnished with printed catalogue cards that go with the books. This is part of a standard equipment which also includes date slip, book cards and book pocket printed with the necessary text . 2 catalogue cards are included for fiction

books and 3 for non-fiction.

2. Catalogue cards are also offered by a subscription service. Each week the subscribers (about 200) do get 1 printed catalogue card from each title centrally catalogued the preceding week.
3. Cards may bee ordered separately even if the books are not bought in Biblioteksentralen.
4. Cards for older book may also be obtained, since we have a stock of some 2 million cards.

Catalogue cards for periodical articles

The Norwegian Periodical Index was for a number of years very much delayed. To help the libraries A/L Biblioteksentralen started in 1964 to catalogue articles from a selection of periodicals of a more or less general nature. At present articles from 22 periodicals are catalogued in the very same way as books. About 500 libraries do subscribe to that service, where cards are distributed monthly to the subscribers.

Annotations

Annotations are made to go with the book offers from Biblioteksentralen. The annotations intend to be a neutral presentation of the books, that is a brief description of the contents with some bibliographic information and a reference to book reviews in newspapers.

Book reviews

Since 1971 Biblioteksentralen has offered copies of book reviews from a number of newspapers with a fairly national coverage. Presently 10 newspapers are being cut and copied for book reviews, annually in a number of 3000 different reviews, which are sent weekly at the time when the book production is high, otherwise every fortnight. Copies of older reviews may also be obtained, since Biblioteksentralen has a stock of over 50.000 reviews.

Publications, such as book lists and printed catalogues are very expensive to produce, especially in a small country with a very limited market, and moreover, these lists very often get outdated very soon. Consequently we are consentrating on publications which are needed in the every day work in most libraries.

The most important of these publications is a subject heading list which is the standard for the subject headings used in the printed catalogue cards and as well a key to the systematic catalogues which are the standards for the public and school libraries. Several editions of the subject heading list have been published in book form. Since the list now is data processed a dataprint version may be obtained, an alphabetic as well as a systematic version.

The libraries are consulting the bibliographical department of Biblioteksentralen on problems in cataloguing and classification and all books that are bought through Biblioteksentralen may be classified according to the Dewey classifications system, even books that are not centrally catalogued. The department is also a consultant for internal bibliographic problems as far as book selection, book lists, printing on book, cards etc.

EDP in cataloguing

Biblioteksentralen is now storing its catalogue informations in a data base and produce printed catalogue cards from that base.

Preparations for this has been made over some years. International Standard Book Numbers were introduced in 1970. From 1979 on books were catalogued according to the International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD (M)).

Biblioteksentralen has also constructed its data format as an extension of the Normarc format. The Norwegian version of the MARC format.

Primarily, we intend to produce printed catalogue cards from that base and gradually extend it to a more comprehensive bibliographical data base to open the doors for a more integrated national and international cooperation in this field.

Library equipment and furniture

Biblioteksentralen also has a separate department for equipment and furniture as we also see the delivery of these goods as our task. The reason is that no other firm is so specialized as Biblioteksentralen on library equipment, and in a number of the small communities no firm exists which could deliver such goods

In specializing in library furniture we are able to develop new models better suited for the libraries.

We are usually not producing furniture ourselves, but we buy from specialized manufacturers.

We put some of the merchandise in stock and others are delivered directly from the manufacturer.

What is the advantages of this kind of service?

The libraries get guidance from a specialized firm. The prices are low, because we do not go for profit.

It is easy to cooperate with similar institution abroad, because we do not compete with each other on the same market.

This cooperation gives us cheaper and better products, for ex. do we buy book support from the Swedish library bureau.

We have a close contact with librarians, manufacturer and architects for developing new products and to test the quality.

For a number of years we have had a Standardization Committee consisting of active librarians.

The committee has developed standardized book equipment, forms, public relation materials etc.

This has meant big savings both for the libraries and

Biblioteksentralen.

We have our own architect of furniture designing and planning new libraries.

By this work new products of furniture are developed.

We present the products through informations sent to the libraries together with the book offer.

Exhibitions are made at library meetings and we also make a catalogue.

Biblioteksentralen is as mentioned, established as a service institution for public and school libraries. It has to be managed in a commercial way, but on a non-profit basis.

The main shareholders (the municipal libraries) expect the best possible service, but these customers very often disagree between themselves.

This very often leads to demands which cannot be met, if commercial aspects shall be the point of departure.

If on the other hand sociocultural reasons shall be paid more attention, public grants must be raised to subsidize certain activities.

On the whole I think it will always be a balance to run a service institution like Biblioteksentralen - a balance between activities profitable to the institution and services not profitable, but which the libraries expect from Biblioteksentralen.

Greek Library Association
Athens-Greece

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IFLA
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Nairobi
Kenya
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"The basis of library and information services for national development"

"Library and Information Systems and Services in Greece"

by

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August 1984

ABSTRACT

An overall view of the library and information systems and services in Greece is described.

The references used are written in the last 2 years. Needs, objectives, problems and solutions for the improvement of the national information system provision are indicated.

Conclusions reached are that the existing serious problems in the information delivery should be solved by an appropriate national policy and strategy and with close regard to real community needs for the national development and independence.

INTRODUCTION

This paper is intended to provide information on the status of the library and information systems and services in Greece. It is concerned with the present situation, the needs, the problems and possible solutions and relationships with political, social and economic development.

Library and Information Systems and services development will undoubtedly facilitate the information flow and communication which is a valuable step for the development of our country in economic, social and cultural terms.

Library and Information Systems and Services in Greece

The provision of appropriate and well organised library and information systems and services, decisive assistance for effective information communication in order to serious socio-economic and cultural problems be solved should be based on a proper understructure.

-Long range national planning to fulfil an "intelligence function"
-Communication and awareness of what is going on other departments.
-coordination in many programmes.
-research on library and information sciences problems
-professional education and training
-professional literature
-career development and professional status
-allocation of resources
-information planning

are considered as a necessary condition which facilitates the information communication needed especially in science and technology for the national development.

In our country this necessary condition seems to be very limited, and the ill-planned information services are a substantial ~~obstacle~~ obstacle in the correct dissemination of information

The general research libraries (national, university, parliamentary) and the special ones (science, tecnology etc.) overloaded with information try to improve their conventional methods and operations in all levels, coping with its own particular matters ralating to administrative, financial and relations problems in order to improve its capacity to receive process and disseminate information to meet recent needs. According to the results of a survey carried out by a working group* on about 35 general and special research libraries in March 1984, 77% of the organizations they belong to, used a Computer for their purposes (education, research, administration) but only 17% of the libraries of these organisations seem to be started using computer facilities in.

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* Automation in library housekeeping. Dimitrellou, Katia, Joanna Polydorou and Yolanda Matsi, Technical Chamber in Greece, one day meeting informatics in information, 9th March 1984

their operations and especially for cataloging and lending.But even then they face problem in continuing and the duration of that use.

However there exist some information and documentation centres which from the information of them are:

1.Documentation Centre which operates within the National Research Foundation,under the authority of the Ministry of Research and Technology and which:
   a has access to international bibliographic data-bases and banks on medicine,biology,chemistry,etc.through EURONET
   b works on a pilot project in coordination with Unesco for the establishment of National Documentation Centre services by:
   -storaging bibliographic Information on Greek Ph.D.
   -creating:a union catalogue of periodicals
      a network of special and university libraries
      a bibliographic Data Bases of greek scientists publications
      a Data Bases on physical environmental planning and development in coordination with the Polytechnic School of the university of Patras
      research programmes

2.Agricultural Documentation Unit,under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture,which has recently been established to:
   -Collect material on related subjects
   -create Data Base and Bank
   -connect with international organisations
   -reorganise its library
   -publish and circulate related publications

3.Under the authority of the Ministry of Physical planning,housing and environment two programmes are in progress:
   a. Infote a
   b. Medtel a
   providing Greece as a national focal point.

4.Documentation and Information Unit of the Technical Chamber in Greece,under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works.
   It works on:
   a. Documentation on related information handling,including informa-

tion system and interchange networks as applied to documentation.
b.Standardisation in the fields of engineering as well as of Information,documentation,librarianship (in coordination with the Hellenic Organisation for Standardisation)
c.S.D. I services (to local sections,Ministries,Libraries
d.creation of a Greek Data Base on technical subjects.
and also it provides access to international bibliographic Data Bases and banks on related subjects though EURONET

.Institut of Medical Studies.It works:
a.on documentation
b.to create:a greek thesaurus based on foreign standards
a Data Base (IATROTEX)

.Rock Mechanics Society
It works to create a Data Base on related subjects

.University of Thessaloniki
It works to create a Data Base on Traffic Engineering

.Documentation Centre of the Hellenic Centre of Productivity.It provides access to foreing bibliographic Data Bases on economic and technical subjects.

.Documentation and Information Unit of Hellenic Organisation of Small and Medium Size Industries and Handicrafts.
It works on documentation on related subjects.
It provides access to foreign Data Bases.

.Organisation of Telecommunications of Greece.
It has organised its libraries of the local sections in a network using a bibliographic Data Base in the central library in Athens

here are also other plans for Information systems and services which are not yet announced.

However all those special libraries and information Units and the rest of them suffer of:
ack of up-dated and expanded national union catalogue of periodicals which is basic for the formulation of a library network
ultidisciplinary thesauri in greek
ational bibliography
ubject allocation
nterlending services

(..In addition to that there is not yet established National Information System responsible to:
-identify local information needs
-formulate objectives
-determine priorities
-evolve an appropriate rtrategy
-coordinate the existing documentation units and efforts,and
-cooperate with foreign countries.

The ad hoc and patcy programmes and efforts unable our country to establish effective scientific and technical information services. This means that Greece will probably continue to need technical cooperation for the development of its information systems.

Nevertheless it started to be commonly agreed that a National Information centre should take up the role of leadership in the development of appropriate information system using economically the existing manpower and the national and international info-resources,not loosing time any more in order to achieve national development. This N.I.C. will be influenced by an increasing tendency to treat information as a commodity and a decreasing tendency upon foreign aid and increasing economic and political independence.This fact obliges the existing library and information units to make often superhuman efforts in order to overcome difficulties in all levels trying to improve their conventional development suitable for domestic use,and in parallel to solve problems in order to communicate with international technologically advance information systems.

Nevertheless the following two factors must be accounted as extremly important for the establishement and the development of effective Library and Information Systems and Services in Greece:
.The medium plan (1983-87)for economic and social development strongly emphasises the need of a national policy in economic and cultural terms.The need to protect our cultural hevitage and develop the general status so that we will become able to push foreign consumer and cultural models unsuitable for our national development.To achieve those tasks there is a number of proposed means

including the establishment and development step by step of a National Library Network which (with the Museums and Archives) will above a budget of about 1.420.000.000 DR (approximately U.S.$11.800.000)

2.The two professional bodies

a.Greek Library Association

b Greek Society of Computer Scientists

Which work and propose to the Govermnent possible alternative solutions to problems related to the reorganisation and development of all the kinds of the existing information systems.How to put a good program with clear objectives that may be fulfilled step by step in order to enable them to serve diverse and real needs of the community (reading,academic and research needs),using manual and automated methods,for national and international information Communication and development.

CONCLUSIONS

The Library and Information units seem to play an important role in information communication for the national development.

There are serious problems to be solved in planning, reorganising and coordinating those units.

A national policy needed to facilitate the improvement and development of the Library and Information units

Solutions and alternatives to the problems should be implemented with close regard to Greek community needs for national developmen and international cooperation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is needed more research and cooperation among those who are responsible for planning healthy indigenous Library and Informations units and those who are responsible for dicision making in order to practical solutions be found for particular needs and problems and hence for National development.

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